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New Frontiers Conference

Max S. Baucus

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Senator * or Department*: **BAUCUS**

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(1) Subject*: Economic Development

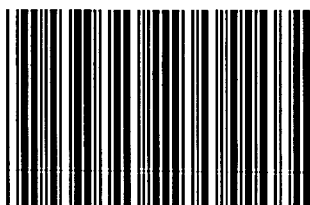
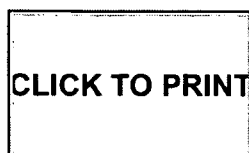
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BAUCUS

Introductory Remarks for Senator Max Baucus
New Frontiers Conference
June 2, 2008
Bozeman, MT

Welcome to the New Frontiers research summit. I want to thank you all for making your way to Bozeman today. I hear that the fishing isn't as good as we'd hoped, but the golfing, sightseeing and other activities should all be good while you're here.

Two big issues for me are competitiveness and good paying jobs. Research and innovation get to the heart of both these issues.

The purpose of this conference is to raise awareness about the globally competitive research being done in Montana.

In order to accomplish this goal, I have invited Federal Agency representatives, business development, and technology experts from across the country.

When it comes to organizing, funding and conducting research, we have some of the best in the business here today. Meg Whitman is one of the most respected business professionals in the world today. We are very lucky to have her.

We also have Secretary of Commerce for Economic Development, Sandy Baruah. Sandy runs the Economic Development Administration and his agency does a lot to help growing businesses.

Then, we'll hear about some of the globally competitive research Montanans are doing. After all, Montana research is what this day is all about.

Following this showcase, we'll have a mini trade show where everyone can get to know each other and see the various Montana research displays set up in the next room.

After lunch, Governor Schweitzer will give us his thoughts and we'll follow that with a little trade show to let everyone get to know each other.

This afternoon, we'll hear from some experts on technology transfer and then we'll have a variety of corporate, investment, and federal experts teach us about various models for organizing, funding and commercializing research.

The most important thing to remember about today is that it is an opportunity for everyone here to learn from each other and make connections. Today is about solutions.

**Inventor Charles Kettering (“KET-ER-ING”) said,
“There exist limitless opportunities in every
industry. Where there is an open mind, there will
always be a [new] frontier.”**

**This room is filled with open minds. The sort of
minds that make this country great. People
whose ideas are as big as our Montana sky and as
significant as our mountain ranges. Ideas that
drive this country’s innovation and sustain our
global competitiveness.**

All of you have come here to realize the magnificent potential of your good ideas. As every entrepreneur knows, good ideas are just a beginning – execution is critical.

You want to transform your ideas into real improvements. This transformation takes a good measure of ingenuity and resourcefulness. It takes creativity and willpower to achieve meaningful innovation.

Montana has an advantage when it comes to innovation. We value free-thinking, hard work, and aren't timid about taking on big challenges.

**Montana's most valuable resource isn't its timber,
minerals, or beauty. Montana's most valuable
resource is its people.**

**When I think about Montana ingenuity, I think of a
young Montana farm kid I know.**

One night, this young Montanan found himself in a bind. While driving on a dirt road, miles from the nearest town, his truck got two flat tires. He had only one spare. Alone in the dark, no cell phone service, and a days walk from the nearest farmhouse, any of us would have despaired. But not this Montanan. He took stock of his situation and came up with a solution.

He replaced the first flat with the one spare he had. Then he took an old screw he found beneath the seat, soaked it in glue, and turned it into the small hole in the second tire. With the second tire patched, he needed to air it up. So this young Montanan separated the rubber from the rim and splashed a little gas inside. Standing back from a safe distance, he tossed a match. The flame ignited the gas vapor inside the tire, inflating and sealing the rubber back to the wheel. He made it home for supper.

Now imagine putting that Montana ingenuity to work in a top-flight university. Imagine putting your latest technology in those able hands.

Imagine harnessing that ingenuity in a laboratory of ideas. Imagine unleashing that can do attitude in your company or your classroom.

Imagine that, and you can begin to realize why we are here today. Imagine that, and you can begin to realize how even little ideas can become reality under the Big Sky.

Introduction for Sandy Baruah

Our first speaker this morning is the U.S.

Assistant Secretary for Economic Development,

Sandy Baruah (ba-ROO-uh).

As the Assistant Secretary of Commerce, Mr. Baruah is a senior member of the President's economic team. He leads the Federal Economic Development Administration (EDA), and he serves as the principal advisor to the Secretary of Commerce on domestic economic development matters.

As the head of EDA, Assistant Secretary Baruah directs the Federal agency charged with advancing economic development in the U.S. EDA has 200 professional employees and six regional offices across the nation and is considered one of the best performing Federal agencies.

I've had the pleasure to work with Mr. Baruah on several projects in Montana, including technology parks in Missoula and Billings. Those projects have been extremely successful, and TransTech park in Billings will soon be the location for a brand new GE facility, bringing 150 new jobs.

Mr. Baruah hails from Portland, OR, and still claims it as home. He is also a good friend of Montana.

Please welcome Assistant Secretary Sandy Baruah.